

Ford Motor - Monroe - Permit File

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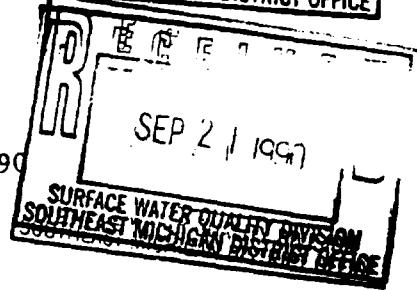
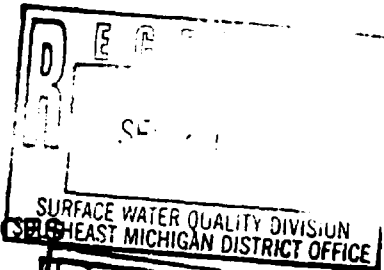


JAMES J. BLANCHARD, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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DAVID F. MALES, Director



September 17, 1990

Mr. Wayne Davis  
U.S. EPA Region V  
230 S. Dearborn  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Davis:

As the new U.S. EPA project officer, you recently asked me to update you concerning the status of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the River Raisin Area of Concern (AOC). This area includes the lower 2.6 miles of the river downstream from Dam No. 6 at Winchester Bridge in the City of Monroe. The AOC also extends one-half mile out into Lake Erie following the Federal Navigation Channel and along the nearshore zone of Lake Erie, both north and south for one mile.

The purpose of our River Raisin RAP was/is to compile and analyze existing data, identify data gaps, and conduct additional investigatory work if needed. The data gathered during this project will then be used to develop a plan for the restoration of impaired uses in the AOC. Part of this effort has been accomplished and the findings are presented in the October 27, 1987, River Raisin RAP report.

The RAP report indicates that the water and sediment in the AOC are contaminated with heavy metals and PCBs. Additionally, carp collected from the area have elevated body burdens of PCBs.

Other significant findings in the report are listed below:

1. There are several on-land sites of PCB and heavy metal contamination near the AOC.
2. Even with frequent dredging through the years, river sediment contamination persists.

I have checked with staff of our Environmental Response and Waste Management Divisions concerning primary known sites of environmental contamination in the AOC. Those sites and the status of the environmental activities associated with them are listed below.

Port of Monroe Landfill: The draft remedial investigation report for the east side of the landfill has been completed and will be submitted to our Environmental Response Division this fall. The remedial investigation for the west side of the landfill will most likely begin by next spring.

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Consolidated Packaging: A remedial investigation workplan will be submitted by this December to our Environmental Response Division. Work there will commence this winter.

Ford Motor Company: Staff from our Waste Management Division are working with Ford officials concerning the cleanup of hazardous wastes at this site. A full scale hydrogeological investigation will begin here within the next two years.

City of Monroe Landfill: No activities are underway here.

Detroit Edison Dredge Spoils Site: No activities are underway here.

Because of the distinct possibility of recontamination of river sediments from on land sources, I do not believe that any large scale sediment remediation projects should be undertaken at this time. However, I am investigating the possibility of obtaining the services of a contractor to better define nearshore pathways concerning releases of contaminants to the river, Plum Creek, and Lake Erie. This would be done by sampling sediments, surface water, groundwater, and soils in nearshore areas to try and determine how and where contaminants are entering the aforementioned waterbodies.

Data collection during this effort would be coordinated and results shared with other site investigators relative to their sites/overall studies. But most importantly, if significant contamination input pathways to the various waterbodies in nearshore areas are identified, perhaps the design and implementation of those remedies needed to prevent such inputs could then be expedited. (Rather than waiting for investigation results to become available for the several different sites in the area that are presently at various stages concerning environmental investigations).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Roger Jones  
Surface Water Quality Division  
517-373-4704

cc: Ms. Vivian Brighton, River Raisin Watershed Council  
Mr. James Neorr, Monroe County Health Department  
Mr. Donald Link, City of Monroe  
Mr. Steve Sliver, Waste Management Division, MDNR  
Ms. Lisa Scarpelli, Environmental Response Division, MDNR  
~~Mr. Roy Schrameck~~, Surface Water Quality Division, MDNR  
Ms. Diana Klemans, Surface Water Quality Division, MDNR  
Mr. William Creal, Surface Water Quality Division, MDNR